Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 05146 060701Z

11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 SAM-01 /083 W
---------- 027747
R 051515Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7641
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BDEGRAEA 5146

DEPT. MAY WISH TO PASSNRO KHARTOUM

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, YO, SU
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV STAND ON SUDANESE-LIBYAN DISPUTE

REF: A. BELGRADE 4707 B. BELGRADE 4815

1. "TANJUG" AUGUST 3 CARRIES REPORT THAT FSFA HAS PUBLICLY DENIED VALIDITY OF "INTERPRETATION" IN SUNA (SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY) STORY OF STATEMENT BY YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR IN KHARTOUM TO SUDANESE HEALTH MINISTER ON SUDANESE-LIBYAN RELATIONS. SUNA ALLEGEDLY REPORTED THAT IN COMPLIANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY, YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR REDZIC HAD EXPRESSED TO SUDANESE HEALTH MINISTER YUGOSLAVIA'S SUPPORT OF SUDANESE POSITION (VIS-A-VIS LIBYA) ON RECENT ABORTIVE COUP. PRECISELY WHAT REDZIC IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE TOLD SUDANESE IS NOT SPELLED OUT. "TANJUG" SAYS FSFA SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT AN "EXPLANATION" OF HIS REMARKS HAS BEEN REQUESTED FROM REDZIC. SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT YUGOSLAVIA CONSIDERS IT "INDISPENSIBLE" TO DENY PUBLICLY THE SUNA REPORT BECAUSE "YUGOSLAVIA DOES NOT WISH TO BE DRAWN BY ANYONE INTO CONFLICTS AMONG THIRD COUNTRIES. ...ALL THE MORE SO AS YUGOSLAVIA IS MAINTAINING AS GOOD AND FRIENDLY
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 05146 060701Z

RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF LIBYA AS SUDAN."

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2. COMMENT: REPORTED FSFA STATEMENT CORRESPONDS BOTH WITH WHAT YUGOSLAVS (REF A) AND SUDANESE (REF B) HERE HAVE BEEN TELLING US IS YUGOSLAVIA'S OFFICIAL HANDS-OFF POLICY ON THE SUDANESE-LIBYAN DISPUTE. FSFA STATEMENT UNDERSCORES ACUTE YUGOSLAV SENSITIVITY TO BEING PUBLICLY ALIGNED ON THIS ISSUE IN OPPOSITION TO LIBYANS.
SWEITZER

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